



A Simple

Jin Kobayashi

Vol.

2

School **Rumble**

2

Jin Kobayashi

**TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
William Flanagan**

**LETTERED BY
Liney Li**

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Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

- san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.
- sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.
- dono: This comes from the word "dono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.
- kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.
- chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirr."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-(blank): This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobaiute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Cultural Note

To preserve some of the humor found in *School Rumble*, we have elected to keep Japanese names in their original Japanese order—that is to say, with the family name first, followed by the personal name. So when you hear the name Tsukamoto Tenma, Tenma is just one member of the Tsukamoto family.

School
Rumble

2

Jin Kobayashi



School **Rumble**

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SPECIAL CHAPTER

**PASS
THE
PEPPER!**

I TOLD YOU TO
ADD "~SAN"
TO MY NAME!
"ITOKO-SAN"!

YOU REALLY
FEEL THAT WAY?
THEN
NO PEPPER
FOR KEN—

**I BEG
YOUR
FORGIVE-
NESS,
ITOKO-SAN!**

OH, SHUT UP!
IT'S A PAIN,
AND I WON'T LIKE
EITHER OF US
TO USE THEM!

**GEEZ!
WHAT'S THE
DIFFERENCE
ANYWAY?**

IT'S EMBARRASSING
FOR ME TO GO
AROUND CALLING
EVERYBODY "~SAN"!



**THAT'S
BETTER.**



**JUST HOW
FAR HAVE
YOU GOTTEN
WITH
TSUKAMOTO-
SAN?**



BY THE WAY,
KENJI-KUN...
THERE WAS
SOMETHING I WANTED
TO ASK YOU
ABOUT...



**DON'T TRY
TO HIDE IT!**
I MEAN,
AS YOUR
GUARDIAN, I
SHOULD KNOW
SUCH THINGS.



**DON'T
SURPRISE
ME WITH
QUESTIONS
LIKE
THAT!!**

I HAVE A
RIGHT TO
KNOW!



WE'RE LIVING
TOGETHER, SO
YOU'RE MY
RESPONSIBILITY.

YOU'RE LIVING IN A CUSHY,
HIGH-CLASS APARTMENT.
I MAY BE YOUR COUSIN,
BUT YOU AND I ARE A MAN AND
A WOMAN LIVING UNDER
THE SAME ROOF.



HE'S AN AIR-HEAD
WITH NO SENSE
OF GRATITUDE.
I KNOW WITHOUT
HIM SERVING JUSTIN

**D-DAMMIT!
DO YOU
GOTTA RUB
IT IN!**



DO YOU THINK
A CHILD OF
SIXTEEN CAN
SIMPLY GO
OUT AND RENT
HIS OWN
PLACE?

BUT YOU
MAKE ME PAY
FOR HALF THE
RENT AND
EXPENSES?
AND I'M JUST A
POOR STUDENT!



NOT KNOWING
ANYTHING ABOUT
HER, SHE LOOKS
LIKE A JAPANESE
BEAUTY FROM THE
OLDEN DAYS.

WHAT A
CUTE GIRL.
I'M
SURPRISED.



**THAT'S
MY
WALLET!**
WHEN DID YOU...

IN
OTHER
WORDS,
THIS IS
THE TYPE
YOU
LIKE,
HUH?



IT MUST
BE A
"MEN DON'T
TALK, THEY
DO!"
SORT OF
THING, HUH?
WELL,
WHATEVER.



**TH-THAT PICTURE!
IT'S A FRIEND'S!!**

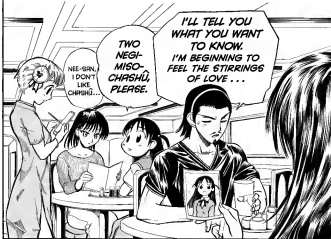
HE ASKED ME TO CARRY IT FOR HIM.

FOR A MAN WITH
ONLY TWO MEN ON
HIM, YOU'VE MANAGED
TO LIVESTREAM HER
PICTURE...

WELL, I'M SURE

DO YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
STILL IN
MIDDLE
SCHOOL?





NEE-SAN,
I DON'T
LIKE
CHASHŪ...

TWO
NEGI-
MISO-
CHASHŪ,
PLEASE.

I'LL TELL YOU
WHAT YOU WANT
TO KNOW.
I'M BEGINNING TO
FEEL THE STIRRINGS
OF LOVE...



HEY! QUIT WITH
THE TRISTED
SUGGESTIONS. JUST
SAY YOU'RE WORRIED
ABOUT ME.

I AM
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU.
REALLY
WORRIED.

HEH, WAS
THAT SO
HARD TO
SAY?

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
LOOKING
AT?

MAYBE
WE
SHOULD
JUST
TELL HER
THAT.



NEE-SAN, NO!
I THINK THAT
BELONGS TO
THE PERSON
BEHIND YOU!

SO I'M GONNA
REALLY START
DRINKING NOW!
I'VE ALREADY
DRUNK DOWN MY
SHAKING WINE.

I DOUBT I
CAN SAY
MORE UNLESS
YOU GET ME
LIQUORED UP.









SUCH AN
INNOCENT
SLEEPING
FACE...
JUST
WHOSE
LITTLE
PRINCESS
ARE YOU?



SHE'S NO
NORMAL KID.

COURSE,
I DON'T KNOW
FROM GIRLS.

I CAN'T!
I'M FULL...



THIS IS
PRETTY MUCH
A PAIN.



HMM...
WHEN YOU
LOOK AT HER
UP REALLY
CLOSE...

... SHE'S
ACTUALLY
PRETTY CUTE!



HELLOP HELLOOOP
WAKE UP AND GO
HOME TO MOMMY,
OKAY?



...DING?

I'M
JUST
KID...



HEY
I DIDN'T
NOTICE
THAT I'M
DROOLING!



SHE'S SO
DEFENSELESS...
UM...

HEY YOU!
LOOK, A GIRL
LIKE YOU
SHOULD...



YOU KEEP
UP LIKE THIS,
AND I CAN'T
BE HELD
RESPONSIBLE...

**HEY!
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING?!**

**ARE YOU
PRETENDING
TO BE ASLEEP
AND PLAYING
SOME SORT
OF JOKE ON
ME? YOU
LITTLE ...**



**CUT IT OUT!!
I AM NOT THAT
KINDA GUY!**



**I LOVE
YOU!**

EH?!

WH-WHAT?!









I SAID, HEY!
YOU CAN'T JUST
LEAVE WITHOUT
SAYING
SOMETHING!
I WON'T STAND
FOR IT!

ARE YOU
THINKING
OF COMING
AFTER ME?

PLEASE!



NM...?



OKAY,
LISTEN!

I
DIDN'T
DO A
THING!
AND
YOU ...



?









BUT I
THINK
WHAT YOU
JUST DID
WAS WAY
OUT OF
LINE!

**PERVERT-
SAN!!!**



OKAY,
I'M IN LOVE,
BUT WHEN
SUDDENLY THAT
HAPPENS...
THERE'S NO
WAY SHE'S
GONNA HEAR
ME OUT LONG
ENOUGH TO
EXPLAIN THE
MISTAKE.

THE SLUGGISH
TOMMY LIVED



BUT I WANT TO SEE HER AGAIN.

I KNOW, I'LL BE A DIFFERENT PERSON!

HOW? MAYBE A BEARD AND SLINGGLASSES!
BUT THAT'S HOW EVERYBODY DOES IT,
YOU IDIOT!

HARIMA KENJI
IN THE PRESENT



**AN ZASS OW I
GOZZ MYFEL
INNA ZISS
VEREMA ...**

AND THAT'S HOW I
GOT MYSELF
INTO THIS
DELMMA.

OH, HELL.
I NEVER
SUSPECTED
YOU GOT
DRUNK THAT
EASILY.

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
A WORD
YOU'RE
SAYING.

**"GOZZ
MYFEL?"**



BUT
KENJI-
KUN,
IT'S
TOO
BAD,
HUH?

YOU'RE
PROBABLY IN
NO CONDITION TO
UNDERSTAND THE
OPINION OF OUR
KNOWLEDGEABLE
DINNER
GUEST.

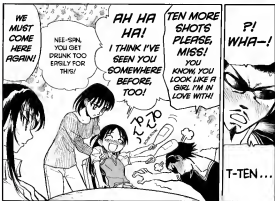


**HOO-
ZAAP**

WHO IS
THAT?

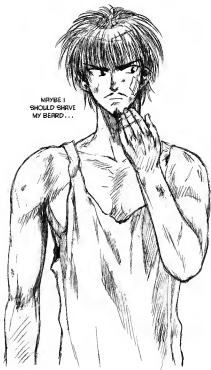
ぐい、

I MISSED A
FEW DETAILS,
BUT I THINK I
UNDERSTAND THE
WAY YOU FEEL.



HARIMA KENJI

MAYBE I
SHOULD SHAVE
MY BEARD...



#17 FIELD OF DREAMS





HEADS UP AT THIRD!





MY
GIRLFRIEND
SAID SHE
WANTED TO
SEE HOW I
PLAYED.
AND BEING
PITCHER
WILL SHOW
IT THE
QUICKEST

IMADORI-KUN?
I THOUGHT YOU
SKIPPED.

.....
WHO'S
THAT?

So
with the
score
tied and
two
outs ...

NO
PROBLEM.
YOUR
HERKEST
LINK HAS
TAKEN
HERSELF
OUT OF THE
GAME.

WHAT KIND
OF ATTITUDE
IS THAT?
SORRY, BUT
THE TURNS
ON THE
FIELD.

NEED A
RELIEF
PITCHER IN
THERE?

COME ON,
ERI-CHAN!
IT'S THE
BEST WAY
TO WIN.

EH? OH,
EH HEH
HEH ...
DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
ME.

AH!
TENMA!

**LOOK
AT THIS
FAST-
BALL!**

NOW,
A FEW
WARM-
UP
PITCHES.

SEE,
SHE SAID SO
HERSELF.
PEOPLE THAT
I'M SHOULD'NT
BE ON THE FIELD,
RIGHT?

OKAY,
DO
WHAT
YOU
LIKE.

.....
THAT
LITTLE
COWARD!



IT'S SO
SLOW, I'M
ALREADY
YAWNING!

WHO'RE YOU
CALLING DIM?!



YOU
MEAN WE
HAVE A
MANAGER?

THE
MANAGER?!

THE
MANAGER'S
COMING
OUT OF THE
DUGOUT!
WE'VE
GOT A
PITCHING
CHANGE!!



WE NEED A
NEW
PITCHER.

THAT
SHOULD
END THE
WARM-UP



EHP!
YOU
MEAN
ME?!



TSUKA-
MOTO-
SAN!

THE NEW
PITCHER
IS...



TSUKAMOTO-SAN,
THERE'S SOMETHING I
NEED YOU TO HEAR.

EH...?



BUT MR.
MANAGER,
I DON'T
KNOW IF I
CAN!



I CAN GIVE
THEM SOME
SLACK.

SAWACHIKU,
THAT'S A **BIG**
VIOLATION.
HOW'D YOU
DARE?!



AND THOSE ARE
EXACTLY THE WORDS
SAWACHIKU-SAN TOLD
ME TO TELL YOU.

YOU **NEEDN'T**
BOTHER WITH HOW
OTHERS SEE YOU.
IF YOU GO OUT AND
GIVE IT EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE, THEN
YOU'LL BE FINE.



In her
dementia, she
never heard
the name
Sawachiku.

KARA-
SUMA-
KUN!
I'M SO
MOVED!



HEY, YOU'RE
NOT SO BAD!

**JUST LEAVE
ME ALONE!!**



HEY, CATCHER!
I DON'T KNOW
WHETHER I SHOULD
HIT IT OR NOT!
TELL ME!

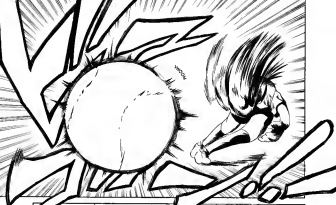
TRY
SITTING
DOWN!



... I'M
GIVING
IT MY
BEST!

KARA-
SUMA-
KUN...





IT'S A
FASTBALL
!!!



IT'S...



ORIGINAL BONUS MANGA FOR THE GRAPHIC NOVEL NO. 1



Harima: The Pest Repellent

THE END

Yagami Shrine



18 FALLING IN LOVE

HEY!
I'M GONNA PICK
FIGHTS WITH YOU
UNTIL I PUT YOU
OUT OF YOUR
MISERY!!



YOU
DON'T
GIVE UP,
HEAP?

YOU
CALLED
ME WITH
ANOTHER
CHALLENGE
LETTER,
TENMA-UP



YOU REALLY WANNA
BE THAT LOUD?
YOU'RE A TERRIBLE
FIGHTER, SO
NORMALLY I
WOULDN'T BOTHER.
BUT...



**LET'S
GO!!**

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

WAIT...! Y-YOU'RE
NOT SAYING THAT
YOU'RE IN LOVE
WITH TENMA-CHAN,
TOO...? P



EVER
SINCE YOU FELL FOR
TENMA-CHAN, I CAN'T
JUST IGNORE YOU.
LATER.







Hana! Haruki : Loves Yakumo.



HE'S A
WEIRD
ONE.

HUH? HIM?
UH...
HIS NAME
WAS ...
KARASUMA?

HE SPENDS THE
WHOLE DAY JUST
STARRING OUT THE
WINDOW.



IF I KEEP
THIS UP, I'M
GONNA KILL
MYSELF WITH
WORRY.

I JUST REMEMBERED IT ALL
ONCE AGAIN, BUT
REALLY, THERE'S NOTHING
WORTHY OF ME
BEING HERE, AND
I'M GOING TO
LEAVE SOON.

DAMNITY!
JUST WHO
IS IT?



COME
ON,
TURN
AROUND.
LOOK
AT ME.

UH-H...
TELL ME,
TENMA-CHAN!



YOU'RE OKAY...
WHAT WAS YOUR
NAME?
OH,
YEAH,
KARA-
SUMA.

THE CHANCES THAT MY
TENMA-CHAN WOULD FALL
FOR A GUY WHO'S THAT
OUT OF IT DON'T EVEN
AMOUNT TO 1%!

I THINK
I CAN
COUNT
HIM OUT.



HUH?



TH-
THAT CAN'T
MEAN... !!



T-TENMA-CHAN
IS...

...LOOKING
THIS WAY WITH
LOVE IN HER EYES!

**IT'S
ME...**

**.....
... P!!**



**IT'S
ME!**



**IT'S
ME!**



**IT'S
ME!**



**IT'S
ME!**



**I ALWAYS THOUGHT SHE
MIGHT HAVE BEEN
INTERESTED!**

**TENMA-CHAN
IS IN LOVE
WITH ME!!**

**THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT
IT! THAT LOVE-STRUCK
GAZE! IT'S FOR CERTAIN!**

THAT'S RIGHT...

Harima Kenji: Full of Himself.





and . . .



#18 Fin.

IMADORI KYÔSUKE

THAT
HURT





19 I WANNA HOLD YOUR HAND

SHE'S
AT LEAST
THREE
TIMES
AS CUTE
AS I
NORMAL!

TENMA-
CHAN!

WE'RE
ALL
ALONE!
SHE'S
HERE TO
VISIT ME!
AND
OUT OF
SCHOOL
UNIFORM!

GIVE ME A HEART
ATTACK, WHY
DON'T
YOU?

EHP
O-OH, REALLY?

PLUNKS
NEED
THEIR
FLOWERS
TOO!
IT HELPS
HEAL THE
WOUNDS!

HA-NO,
THAT
ISN'T
TRUE AT
ALL!

ACTUALLY, HAHIMACHIN, SINCE
YOU SEEM A LITTLE LIKE A PLUNK, I
WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE
THE FLOWERS I BROUGHT.

...IS WHAT YOU
REALLY WANT TO SAY,
RIGHT?

BUT ONLY WITH
BRIGHT, ATTRACTIVE
YOU...

URK!

I
THINK I
GET IT

STOP
FIGHTING
YOURSELF
AND TELL
ME! IT'S
WHAT YOU
FEEL!

WHAT ARE YOU
DOING? SHE
CAME ALL THE
WAY TO SEE YOU!

SAY A PHRASE OR
TWO THAT SHE'D
LIKE TO HEAR!

P

YOUR MOUTH
WOULD
REMEMBER
ME!

OKAY,
BUT HOW
DO YOU
KNOW?
YOU KNOW
BEFORE, TOO!
I CAN'T
SAY THAT!

?

O-
OKAY,
I'LL SAY
IT!!

B-BMP B-BMP







IT'S NOTHING.



SHE'S LAUGHING! DID I MESS UP SOMEHOW?

EHP!

OH HA HA!



IT KINDA MAKES ME HAPPY. TODAY WE TALKED ABOUT A BUNCH OF THINGS. IT'S NICE.

YEAH

IT'S JUST THAT WE SIT RIGHT NEXT TO EACH OTHER IN CLASS AND WE'VE HARDLY EVER SPOKEN.



I SHOULD HAVE ACTED LIKE ALWAYS DO.

WHY, IT HURT TOO MUCH IF I JUST ACCEPTED MY FEELINGS YEAH



R-REALLY?

NOW THAT SHE MENTIONS IT, IT'S TRUE.

BUT DESPITE THAT, I OVER-REACHED.



NO...



A bit too accepting.

... TAKE YOU IN MY ARMS!!!

ACCEPT MY FEELINGS AND...



And so . . .



#19 Fin.

ASÔ HIROYOSHI



#20 LOVE IS WAR

CLEANING
THE POOL?

WHY IS
OUR CLASS
STUCK
WITH IT?

BECAUSE
HANA
VOLUNTEERED
US.
AS CLASS
REPRESENTATIVE.

WE IN
2-C CAN
HANDLE
IT!

THE POOL
CLEANING IS
A TOSS-UP
BETWEEN US
AND CLASS
1-D.

HIS
"PERFECT
STUDENT"
NEEDS
SOMETHING
NEW.

I'M NOT OPPOSED,
EXACTLY. IT JUST
MAKES ME NERVOUS
WHEN THINGS ARE
DECIDED WITHOUT
ASKING US.

OH YEAH,
WASN'T HE
IN YOUR
SHOULDER
DOJO?





HE REALLY IS TOO SERIOUS!
HEY DON'T THEM CHALLENGE IN ENOUGH AND THEY'LL OVER THE PLACE

THIS IS FOR YOU, TSUKAKUNO-KUN OF CLASSE 1-01 I'LL GIVE THEE FROM THY WASTED CLEANING PAIN ...

... AND WITH MY SWEET THY LOVE SHALL BURN AGAIN

(SING)
(TSUKAKUNO'S HEAD METER.)

HIS "HANDSOME DORK" WAYS AREN'T ANYTHING NEW

AND HE HAS A ONE-SIDED

CRUSH ON TSUKA-MOTO YAKUMU.

FAVORITE SAYING:
"THE BERRY MEN MUST GET WHEN A CHASE IS JUST!"

HANAI HARUKI!!

183 CM (6'1"),
78 KG
072 LBS!

TOP GARDEN, ATTITUDE BOTH MARTIAL ARTS CLUBS AND LITERARY CLUB, JUSTICE AND CURRENT SERIOUS INDUSTRIOUS METHODICAL.



THIS COULD BE FUN AND I DON'T HAVE TO DO A THING

IS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR DID SOMETHING I WOULD FIND HARD TO FORGIVE COME OUT OF HIS MOUTH?
"THIS IS FOR YOU!"



"TSUKA-MOTO-KUN?"



IF YOU THINK OF IT AS TRAINING, THEN YOU'LL BE SATISFIED!

MUSCLE TONING



HARIMA KENJI!!

180 CM
(5'11"),
79 KG
074 LBS!

COME TO THINK OF IT, TENMA-CHAN SAID SOMETHING NICE ABOUT THAT TOO-SERIOUS CREEP!



I CAN'T LET THIS PASS!
MAYBE I'D BETTER CHALLENGE HIM!

TO A FIGHT, THAT IS!



THE REST HAS BEEN EDITED FOR TIME AND CONTENT.









EH?

HEY, IT'S
THAT
GIRL
FROM
LAST
YEAR!
SHE'S
PRETTY
HOT!
HEY,
IT'S
THAT
GIRL
FROM
LAST
YEAR!
SHE'S
PRETTY
HOT!



THIS
WAS
NOTHING
MORE
THAN
AN
EXHIBITION
MATCH

TO
PASS
THE
TIME.

BE AT
EASE,
TELKIMO-
TO-KUN.



THE REAL
CONTEST
BEGINS
NOW!

BUT I DON'T
INTEND THIS
TO END AS
NOTHING MORE
THAN PLAY

"REAL
CONTEST?"

HUH, HANRI-KUN!
YOU'VE MET
YAKUMO
BEFORE?



HEY, WAIT
JUST A
MINUTE...!!!

WE'RE GOING TO
HAVE A POOL
HOCKEY GAME TO
DETERMINE CLASS
PARTICIPATION IN
THE CULTURAL
FAIR! CLASS
MEMBERS CAN
ENTER OR NOT AS
THEY WISH!



WHAT?!

TH-THEN COUNT
ME IN, TOO! WE
CAN SETTLE THIS
LATER, RIGHT?

OH! SO
YOU LIKE
IT?

THAT
SOUNDS
LIKE FUN!
COUNT ME
IN!

NOTHING
FIZES
THESE
GUYS.



THE MORE
SERIOUS
THE STUDENT,
THE EASIER IT IS TO
BRIKE HIM

"TELKIMOTO
YAKUMO'S
CHARISM SCORE
IS A LITTLE, IF
THEY CAN HAVE
A MAN INTO
THAT

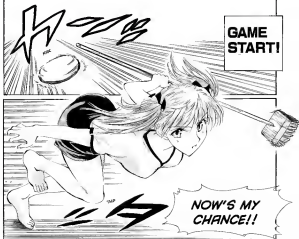
I WAS JUST TRYING TO
FIGURE WHETHER OUR
CLASS SHOULD DO A
SHOP OR A PLAY FOR
THE FAIR, AND I WAS
GETTING NOWHERE,
BUT THIS WILL DECIDE
IT PERFECTLY!

SOON
MY
PROBLEM
WILL BE
SOLVED!



#21 MIGHTY DUCKS







**SH-SHE
STOPPED
IT?!!**



KEEP YOUR
LEECHOUS
EYES TO
YOURSELVES,
YOU
HYENAS.

SO THERE'S
SOMETHING
SUO IS
ACTUALLY
ENTHUSIASTIC
ABOUT!

THEY
BOTH DO
SHOULIN,
AND
THEY'RE
PRETTY
STRONG.

SO SUO
AND HIRAO
KNOW
EACH
OTHER?

HURT
!!
~~~~~

.....  
THAT



IDIOT!  
IT ISN'T  
ABOUT  
THAT!



IF I DID, IT  
MIGHT BE  
ME WHO  
WINDS UP  
INJURED.

**YOU CREEP!!  
CAN'T YOU PULL  
YOUR PUNCHES A  
LITTLE?**

I'VE BEEN  
LIVING  
WITH  
YOUR  
PUNCHES  
SINCE.









AFTERWARDS, THEY  
WOULD SAY THAT THIS  
WAS THE BIRTH OF  
WHAT MEN WOULD  
CALL THE PHANTOM  
STRIKER!

**HARIMA  
KENJI . . .**



# #22 DUEL





**THE  
LOWEST-  
ANGLE  
SHOT!**

**GOT IT!**



...NOTHING...  
ABSOLUTELY  
NOTHING...

アキコ

WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING,  
FUYUKI?



FUYUKI TAKEICHI,  
A YOUNG MAN  
WITH A BURNING  
PASSION FOR  
HIS CAMERA.  
(BUT NOT IN A  
GOOD WAY)

...GET  
ME  
DOWN!

THAT  
WON'T  
...



TSK!

MY CHANCE  
GOT AWAY.

ズキ

THEY  
REALLY  
ARE  
BEAUTIFUL  
WOMEN!

BEAU-  
TIFUL!

DOES  
THIS MEAN  
YOU'RE STILL  
TAKING  
LEWD  
PHOTOS?

WHAT?

WAIT A  
SECOND!

THEY'RE LIKE A  
DIVINE GIFT TO A  
PHOTOGRAPHER. I'M  
SO GLAD I'M IN THIS  
CLASS!

DON'T GIVE ME  
EXCUSES, YOU  
SHAMELESS HACK!

THIS CALLS  
FOR  
RIGHTEOUS  
PUNISHMENT!

"LEWD?"  
THESE ARE  
MILD!

WHAT I TAKE CAN  
ONLY BE CALLED  
ART! R-R-T, ART!

..... YOU  
BASTARD  
...

WOULD  
YOU BE  
INTERESTED  
IN  
PURCHASING  
A SET OF  
TEEN?

COME TO THINK OF  
IT, I JUST SHIPPED  
SOME OF YUKIHO-  
CHAN...

IF YOU'VE  
GONE THAT  
FAR, THEN I  
HAVE TO ...

WH-WHAT  
NOW?!



SHOEN 1-1000



## The Real Reason They're There: To Clean the Pool.









THEY  
SAY THAT  
YOU DIDN'T  
HAVE A  
BOYFRIEND  
IN  
ENGLAND  
EITHER...



I HEAR THAT YOU  
DON'T HAVE A  
STEADY  
BOYFRIEND YET.



YOU  
ALREADY  
KNOW  
THAT,  
RIGHT?

OH,  
SAWAOKI-  
SAN! DO YOU  
HAVE A SECOND?  
I'M SANO FROM  
CLASS A....



I WAS  
THINKING, IF  
IT'S ALL  
RIGHT WITH  
YOU, ON OUR  
NEXT  
DAY OFF--

A  
1/2



I'M  
SORRY.

# 23 SHOPPING







I  
CAN  
HAVE  
ONE?  
HERE?

WELL/HOW  
ABOUT IT,  
YOUNG  
MISSE?  
YOU WANT  
ONE?



LET'S  
SLEEPING  
HIM, HAY?

DADDY  
WILL BE  
REALLY  
HAPPY IF  
WE MAKE  
HIM  
THAT!



TEHHEE  
HEEED! I  
MERE! I  
CAN'T FIND  
ANY WITH  
RED PRICE  
TAGS.







<... WELL, ABOUT THAT ... I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE JAPAN RIGHT AWAY ON BUSINESS.>



<O-YOU CAME TO PICK ME UP?>



<FORGIVE ME. IT'S TURNED OUT THAT WE CAN'T HAVE DINNER TOGETHER AFTER ALL.>



<BUT THAT 9:00 PM I WAS DISAPPOINTED. I LOOKED FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN AFTER SO LONG. BUT I'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT. SHALL I GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME?>

<I'M JUST FINE/ GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR TRIP/>

<OH! D-DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT/ I PROMISED A CLASSMATE THAT I'D MEET UP WITH HER.>

<BEHIDES, I UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S LIKE FOR YOU TO HAVE BUSINESS CALLING YOU TO PLACES ALL OVER THE WORLD, FATHER.>



IT FIGURES ...





# 23 ..... Fin.

## #24 CONTACT



*Lunch break  
... at school.*

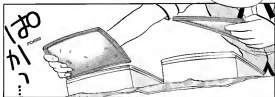


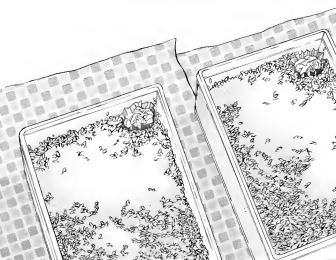


Harima Kenji: Always Poor at the End of the Month.









...RICE!!

THEY'RE BOTH...



IT WAS ALL MY MISTAKE...

OF COURSE, THE ONE WHO PROVED THEM WAS TERRIBLE



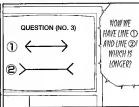
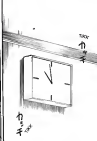


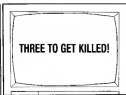
# 24 ..... Fin.

## # 25 APOCALYPSE NOW

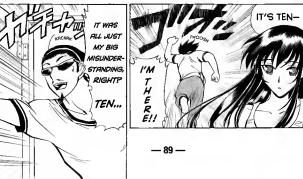








Skippping School, Afternoon: TV Costume Dramas.





Tennōji Noboru: Harima's Long-Time Enemy.





# SCHOOL RUMBLE!



**HARIMA  
IS  
BACK  
AGAIN!!**



**THAT  
JERK IS  
FINALLY  
HERE!**

**THERE  
HE  
IS!!**

**# 26 LAST ACTION HERO**

**IF YOU'RE A MAN, BE ENRAGED! ATTACK HEAD ON! FIGHT!**



THIS PAGE IS FICTION, AND AIN'T GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY PERSON, PLACE, OR EVENT THAT EVER HAPPENED, GOT IT?!



HARIMAI GIVE IT ALL YOU GOT! THIS IS FOR TENMA!!





TSUKAMOTO-SAN'S  
HEART NOW  
BELONGS  
TO ME! DO  
YOU HEAR  
ME?



THAT'S  
IMPOS-  
SIBLE!



UHH!



T-  
TENMA-  
CHAN?!





**I  
CANNOT  
ALLOW  
THAT TO  
STAND!**



**OUR  
BATTLE  
BEGINS,  
KARA-  
SUMA!!**















YOU ARE?  
BUT ...

DON'T  
WORRY! I CAN  
MAKE A  
SIMPLE MEAL  
WITHOUT  
YOUR HELP!



DON'T  
BOTHER!  
DON'T  
BOTHER!  
I'M MAKING IT  
TODAY!

いいえ  
そそ

WELL, I  
GUESS I'D  
BETTER  
GET TO IT

HOW ODD FOR  
HER-SEN TO GET  
INGREDIENTS FOR  
"HEY QUARRY"



BUT YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
SET THE PLACE  
ON FIRE ANY-  
MORE.  
LIKE LAST TIME.



SHE'S  
SPOILED!

NO DUB!  
SHE'LL  
LEARN  
COOKING  
LIKE  
THIS

YOU'RE  
SURE? OKAY,  
THEN.



YOU MEAN  
SHE'S  
CERTAIN  
TO START  
A FIRE!

AND  
FIRES  
CAN BE  
PUT OUT  
QUICKLY.

Y-YOU'RE  
RIGHT!  
YEAH! NO  
PROBLEM.

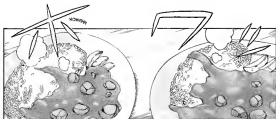
IT'S BOUND TO  
BE ALL RIGHT!  
THE THREE OF US  
ARE HERE!

NOW,  
LET'S  
GET  
COOK-  
ING!











## # 28 THE DEEP







(Thanks, who a little bit later, he's back home, but I can't wait, so he goes to his room)





Karasuma ôji = Nijo-Sensei.





HEY, YOU!  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
OUT HERE?



MUMBLE MUMBLE  
... MY DREAM  
...IT WAS MY DREAM  
...THE LAST ONE  
LEFT TO ME...  
THE LAST ROAD FOR  
ME... TO DRAW...  
MY BOOK...



HEY...

UP CLOSE,  
YOU LOOK  
PRETTY  
YOUNG.

DID  
YOU RUN  
AWAY?



THEN I'D GRIN JUST A LITTLE FINE...  
AND THEN ONE DAY, I'D MEET HER...  
THE GIRL I'D LOVED YEARS EARLIER...  
I'D MEET HER BY COINCIDENCE IN THE  
BOOKSTORE... AND SHE'D BE  
HOLDING MY BOOK...

MUMBLE  
"HOW ODD!" I'D SAY WITH THE  
SLIGHTEST SMILE... JUST WITH THAT,  
I'D FEEL HAPPY... THAT WAS WHAT  
MADE ME HAPPY...

Girl: Who Are You?



AND  
HANDSOME,  
TO BOOT.



UM...  
WHAT'S  
YOUR NAME?

MY PEN  
NAME  
IS...

...HARIMA☆  
HARUO.

I DECIDED ON IT SO THE  
CHILDREN WOULD ENJOY  
CALLING ME BY NAME.



YOU'LL  
CATCH  
COLD OUT  
HERE. YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
ANYPLACE  
TO GO,  
RIGHT? I  
CAN TELL.

COME  
BACK WITH  
ME. YOU  
CAN BE MY  
PET.

# *School* **Rumble**

## # 29 THE BOY CAN'T HELP IT



I WAS  
DUMPED,  
TOO. JUST A  
LITTLE WHILE  
AGO.



ACTUALLY,  
WHEN I FIRST SAW  
YOU, IT CAME TO ME  
IN A FLASH.  
"AH, HE'S JUST  
LIKE ME."



LET'S DRINK  
TO-GETHER  
TO-NIGHT!  
OKAY?

I'M  
GONNA  
GO  
TAKE A  
SHOWER.



.....  
.....  
.....



"GUY  
GUY!"  
  
THIS  
WELLING  
TO A  
MIN.

JUST GO  
AHEAD AND  
THINK OF  
THIS AS YOUR  
OWN HOME.

THERE'S  
NO REASON  
TO BE  
NERVOUS.

NOW,  
I'LL GET  
MYSELF  
SOMETHING  
TO DRINK.

RAWH, I'M  
ALL OUT  
OF KIRIN.

MONEY'S  
TIGHT THIS  
MONTH.  
I'LL JUST HAVE TO  
MAKE DO WITH THE  
CRAP STUFF.

AND IN THE END, IT ALL  
TURNED OUT TO BE  
FOR NOTHING.



MAYBE IT'D BE  
SMALL, BUT IT'D  
BE A WARM HOME  
WITH TWO KIDS...



AND WHEN  
I SEE THE FACE OF  
THE WOMAN I  
LOVE, ALL OF THE  
WEARINESS OF A  
TOUGH DAY  
WOULD JUST  
FALL AWAY

I'D PURN  
TO HAVE  
CHAMPAGNE  
AND A  
BOUQUET OF  
FLOWERS  
FOR HER  
BIRTHDAY,  
BUT KEEP IT  
A SECRET  
FROM  
HER.



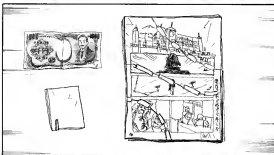
TAKES HIM  
A WHILE TO  
GET TO  
THE POINT,  
HUP

**BUT IT'S ALL JUST A  
DREAM THAT WILL  
NEVER COME  
TRUE!!**

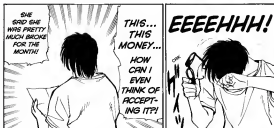


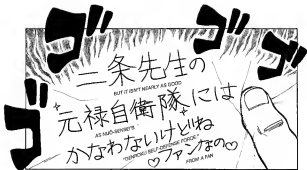






Harima Kenji: Gets Up Past Noon.





NIJÔ-SENSEI →

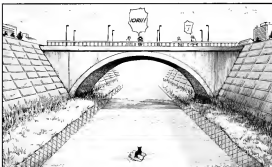


# 29 ..... Fin.

# *School* **Rumble**







Iori: The Cat that Yakumo Adopted.

KCH... I WANT TO GO  
RESCUE IT...  
BUT I MUSTN'T BE ANY PART OF  
YOUR LIFE ANYMORE!!



ANYBODY!  
SOMEBODY,  
PLEASE HELP!  
CAN'T  
ANYBODY  
COME TO THE  
RESCUE?



キーン



PLEASE!  
SOME-  
BODY  
SAVE THE  
POOR  
THING!!



!!



SOMEBODY  
ELSE WILL  
RESCUE IT

キーン



Bridge Height: Approximately 10m (33 feet).







ARE YOU  
ALL  
ALONE?  
AREN'T YOU  
LONELY?



... School ...  
Central Atrium



JUST LIKE  
YOU,  
RIGHT?

I JUST  
ARRIVED IN  
THIS COUNTRY,  
SO I DON'T  
KNOW A LOT  
OF PEOPLE  
EITHER.

COME  
HERE.

03 IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY



NOT EVEN  
CLOSE,  
HUP?

RAWW...  
I'M JUST  
NOT  
LOVABLE,  
AM I?

TMP





AH!

MM...P



YOU OVER-SLEPT!  
HOW COULD YOU?



I  
GUESS  
I OVER-SLEPT.

NO-  
BODY'S  
HERE.



**CLOSED**  
PLEASE COME AGAIN

HA  
HA HA!  
I BOUGHT  
EVERYTHING  
WE'LL  
NEED!  
I CAN  
ANTICIPATE  
YOUR EVERY  
MOVE, YAKUMOP!



I'M  
SORRY  
I MISTAKENLY  
MISSED  
THE  
STORE'S  
OPENING  
HOURS.



YOU REALLY  
CAN'T KEEP  
AWAKE, HUH,  
YAKUMOP?

YEAH...



IT'S A BIGGER  
PROBLEM  
THAN JUST  
NOT HAVING  
SIDE DISHES.

BUT YOU REALLY  
SHOULD DO  
SOMETHING ABOUT  
THAT HABIT OF  
FALLING ASLEEP  
ANYWHERE,  
ANYTIME.

THANK  
YOU.

SURE!



THIS IS TROUBLE.  
I DON'T  
GET IT.



HM...  
I CAN  
WAKE ME  
UP...

YOU DON'T  
HAVE  
ENOUGH  
CLOSE  
FRIENDS  
WHO'LL  
WAKE YOU!



U-UH...

TSUKAMOTO DOESN'T HAVE  
A BOYFRIEND, SO THIS  
MAY BE MY  
CHANCE!

I...

RIGHT?  
TSUKA-  
MOTO,  
YOU'RE  
COMING TO  
KARAOKE, TOO?  
THOSE OTHER  
GIRLS ARE SO  
COOL, YOU HAVE  
TO COME ALONG!



The next day...  
... AT school!



I'M  
MEETING  
... A FRIEND  
... IN THE  
ATRIUM  
LOUNGE.



I  
JUST  
HAVE  
TO...

... PUT  
UP WITH  
IT.



EVER SINCE  
I STARTED  
SEEING IT...  
IT'S JUST GOT-  
TEN STRONGER  
AND  
STRONGER.

AGAIN.



OH,  
MAN!  
THAT'S  
SCARY!

LOOK  
OVER  
THERE! YOU  
THINK THAT  
CAT'LL BE  
ALL RIGHT?

HEY!

JUST  
LIKE  
I  
AM  
NOW  
...  
ALL  
ALONE



IT'S THAT  
BLACK CAT THAT  
WE'VE BEEN  
SEEING AROUND.  
THE ONE THE  
GIRLS NAMED.  
WITHOUT ASKING  
THE OWNER



HEY! THIS IS  
LOOKING BAD!



IT'S UP AGAINST  
A WILD DOG! IT'S  
GONNA GET  
SERIOUSLY HURT!



WOOF!!







AWW

...

I WAS  
SO  
SCARED  
...!



I'M  
GLAD  
ABOUT  
THAT.

YES ...  
YES, I AM.  
THANK  
YOU!

ARE  
YOU  
ALL  
RIGHT?





# ORIGINAL BONUS MANGA FOR THE GRAPHIC NOVEL NO. 2



THE END



THANK  
YOU  
VERY  
MUCH.

I HAVE TO  
LEAVE, BUT  
YOU CAN  
STAY AS  
LONG AS  
YOU FEEL  
LIKE.

... CAN'T BE  
DETERMINED  
FROM A  
PHOTO OR  
MIRROR.

BUT THE  
FULL  
EFFECT  
...

ART ROOM

BRUSH  
PENCIL  
ERASER  
SCISSOR

I CAN  
TEACH  
YOU.

WHY CAN'T I  
DRAW LIKE MY  
SISTER?

THAT'S WHY YOU  
CAN'T MANAGE AN  
ORDINARY FACE  
LIKE EVERYONE  
ELSE!

YOU'RE A  
COWARD, AREN'T  
YOU?

I CAN  
TELL.















**ORIGINAL BONUS MANGA FOR THE GRAPHIC NOVEL NO. 3**



**THE END**



*On a certain day of a certain month, Morning.*





↑ SORT OF A "SUPERMAN" THEME













CONTINUED IN VOLUME 3.



## About the Creator



**Jin Kobayashi** was born in Tokyo. *School Rumble* is his first manga series. He has answered these questions from his fans:

***What is your hobby?***

Basketball

***Which manga inspired you to become a creator?***

*Dragon Ball*

***Which character in your manga do you like best?***

Kero Harima

***What type of manga do you want to create in the future?***

Action

***Name one book, piece of music, or movie you like.***

The Indiana Jones series

## Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places in which we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

### Page 3. Leaving Off the Honorific “-san”



Young tough guys (and tough girls) don't like to employ honorifics, since that reinforces the idea that others carry higher status than they do. Also, since *yobisute* (leaving off the honorific) is used not only in close

relationships but also by superiors in speaking to their inferiors in the social or job-related pecking order, a tough person can sound more intimidating by leaving off the honorifics.

### Page 4. Cousins

Although it is very rare, first cousins can marry legally in Japan (as well as in about half the states in the U.S.). So an adult relationship between Itoko and Kenji is within the realm of possibility. By the way, using different kanji, the word *itoko* means cousin.

### Page 8, Negi-Miso-Chashû

Tenma is ordering a couple of bowls of Chinese-style ramen noodles. *Negi-miso* is the common soup base, *miso*, with fried spring onions sprinkled over the top. It's a choice that has recently become popular for its combination of delicious taste and low fat content. *Chashû* are thinly sliced pork filets that are commonly added to ramen dishes.



### Page 8, Shaoxing Wine

Shaoxing Wine comes from a large-scale state-owned winery located on the south shores of Jian Lake in Zhejiang Province, China. They export their wine all over the world to destinations that include Japan and the U.S.

### Page 29, Rules Violation

In baseball or softball, once a player is taken out of the game, he or she is out for the rest of the game and can't come back. Tenma took herself out of the game to let Imadori pitch. She shouldn't be allowed back into the game as the new pitcher.



## Page 34. Equations of Aerial Velocity



Hey, I just translated this as I saw it. I don't know if Jin Kobayashi knows what the heck this equation is about, but I sure don't. If any of you are students hoping to get into an exchange program in Japan, I rather doubt the high school curriculum is this hard.

## Page 43. Attractive You

Here was a pun that I couldn't translate with quite the same meaning. Kenji shouted *kimi mitai na*, which means, "like you." But Tenma heard the word *kimi* not with Harima's intended meaning of you, but as a different *kimi* that means a shade of yellow. So Tenma asks Harima, what looks like yellow? Harima then comes up with a story about how a long time ago ice was yellow-colored, and it must have had a weird taste. Unfortunately, as translator I couldn't come up with any good shades of yellow that would also sound like a compliment to a girl. So the next best thing was to translate this as a compliment to a girl that could be misunderstood as some other kind of phrase.





### Page 44, Peeling an Apple

Traditionally, a bedside visitor peels an apple for the sick person to eat. If the apple can be peeled in one long spiral, it is a good omen for the long life of the patient. In this case, Tenma got a little carried away with the peeling.

### Page 49, Shakespeare

Just as in America, the Japanese school curriculum frequently includes classic Shakespearean works such as *Romeo and Juliet* or *Hamlet*. These translated works include a distinctive meter and vocabulary that represent sixteenth century English vocabulary and Shakespeare's commonly used iambic pentameter. Instead of retranslating the Japanese meter back into English (a near-impossible task), I did my best to take the meaning of what Hanai says and put it into an iambic pentameter rhyming couplet.

### Page 53, A Play or a Shop

Every year, Japanese schools hold a cultural fair in which each class and club sets up a booth or provides entertainment for the attendees. The plays are usually short-



form comedies or dramas. The shops are usually refreshment booths or classrooms redecorated as coffee shops or other themed attractions.

## Page 63,

### The Peace (or V for Victory) Sign in Pictures



Japanese people, especially young people, have an ingrained habit of making the victory sign when their picture is being taken. One theory as to how this came about involves the American figure skater Janet Lynn. Although she didn't win a medal, she became a darling of the

Japanese media during the 1972 Olympic winter games in Sapporo, Japan. Lynn, a peace activist, would make the V sign for the countless photographs that appeared in the Japanese press. Another historical source of the sign could be the U.S. occupation of Japan in the late 1940s, when American servicemen stationed in Japan would make the V for victory sign in photographs. One thing is for sure, Japanese vacation photographs are filled with the V sign.

## Page 71, Nikujaga

A stew made with meat (*niku*) and potatoes (*jagaimo*) seems more like a Western dish than a traditional Japanese meal. But *nikujaga* is one of those meals that nearly every Japanese person has grown up with. As with *miso* soup, the average Japanese person considers the best-tasting *nikujaga* to be the one Mom always used to make.



### Page 71, Those < > Symbols

One of the conventions of American comics is to have translations of foreign languages placed between the < > symbols, with an editorial box noting what language the dialogue is being translated from. This translation has adopted this convention since there are many foreign students in *School Rumble*, and there needs to be a distinction between the English that is translated from Japanese and

the English that was originally English (since the Japanese students in the manga won't understand those bits of dialogue spoken in English). Eri's withering rejection was written in English in the Japanese version, but the wording was a little ambiguous and not quite natural-sounding English dialogue, so it was slightly rewritten for this translation. The conversation that Eri has with her father in the Japanese version was displayed in Japanese, but it used a different font and horizontal reading to indicate that it was translated into Japanese from English.



### Page 72, Dashi

*Dashi* is a Japanese-style soup stock.

### Page 73, Red Price Tags

As in America, red-tagged items tend to indicate great discounts, but the discounts may come on food items that are past their spoil dates or have other defects.



## Page 79, Bento

The traditional boxed lunch of Japan usually features a main course on a bed of rice and includes pickled veggies, salad, cooked egg and other foods along with sweet beans for dessert. But the term *bento* has been expanded to mean just about any meal that can be taken from place to place. In Tenma's case, it just means a boxed lunch.

## Page 83, Onigiri

*Onigiri*, commonly called rice balls in English, are the standard Japanese lunchbox item. They are usually triangular-shaped balls of rice with a pickled plum or other strong-flavored item at the center and a piece of edible seaweed curled around the underside. They don't actually need any filling. A ball of rice can be enough to satisfy the Japanese palate.



## Page 88, Three to Get Killed!



In the real world, *Sanbiki ga Kiru!* (*Three for the Kill!*) is an immensely popular *jidai-geki* (Warring States or Edo Period drama) that featured Sengoku and his companions. In *School Rumble*, *Sanbiki ga Kirareru!* (*Three to Get Killed!*) features Mangoku (sen means 1000, and man

means 10,000) and his companions. (For more information, see the notes in Volume 1.)

## Page 110, Dankosha

Reverse the dan and the ko and you may see the familiar name of one of Japan's top publishers.



### Page 110, Nijō-sensei

The name Nijō is probably inspired by Kamiyō-sensei, the manga-ka who writes and draws *Samurai Deeper Kyo* for Kodansha's *Shonen Magazine* manga periodical. The title of *Genroku Self-Defense Force* combines the ideas of the Genroku period (1688–1704) of the Edo Era and the modern idea of the Japanese military, the Self-Defense Force.

### Page 115, Men as Pets

It isn't as farfetched as it seems, and *Kimi wa Petto* (*Tramps Like Us*) wasn't where the idea originated. Women in their twenties with office jobs have the luxury of having a lot of disposable income, and sometimes they're monetarily better off than the men they date. A few Japanese women have gone so far as to keep men as pets in their apartments.



### Page 118, Kirin

Beer aficionados will recognize the name of the high-quality Japanese beer.

### Page 126, Pachinko

Pachinko parlors are the most popular gambling establishments in Japan. Small metal balls are shot into a complicated vertical pinball-



style area with multiple holes that give different jackpots for each hole. Of course, like slot machines in American casinos, the patterns of pins and holes in pachinko machines are calculated to return

fewer balls than they take in over an extended period of time. The parlors skirt Japanese anti-gambling laws by returning prizes that can take the form of grocery items, but never money.

### Page 132, Water Sprite (Kappa) and Sanpei

The Kappa water sprites of Japan usually look like a cross between a monkey and a frog,

but one of their most distinctive features is a pool of water at the top of their heads surrounded by a ring of hair (looking somewhat like Harima Kenji's bald spot). There was a popular manga by



Mizuki Shigeru (*GeGeGe no Kitaro*) by the title of *Kappa no Sanpei* (*Sanpei the Water Sprite*) which explains Kenji's reply to Tenma.

### Page 152, Ghosts

Although in many respects the tradition of ghosts in Japan is very similar to the tradition in the West, Japanese ghosts have a few



unique characteristics. Normally they have no feet; their forearms are usually held horizontal from the waist with their hands hanging limply from the wrists; they often wear white kimonos and have headbands with a triangular piece

of paper or cloth on their foreheads known as *hitaikakushi*; and they are at times (such as in the scene with Tenma) depicted as tiny floating flames called *hinotama*.

### Page 153, "Kandagawa"

"Kandagawa" was a mid-'70s hit by folk artist Kaguyahime, about a young, poor, unmarried couple living together and existing on nothing but love. It marked a turning point in Japanese folk music, when the hated television became the folk musicians' favorite

medium. The fact that few young people know the song today tells both of Yakumo's tastes and of Japan's generation gap.



### Page 157, Sala or Sarah

In the scene with Hanai in the Japanese version of this volume, her name is written in English letters as Sala, but on the color image in

volume 6, her name is written as Sarah. To Japanese ears, the two spellings sound the same, since Japanese does not differentiate between the sound of an L and the sound of an R. (The actual Japanese sound is somewhere in between.) However, since spelling is so vital to English-speaking audiences, the translator has decided to correct the discrepancy in the original: Hanai misspelled Sarah's name. Her real name is the more standard English spelling, but since Hanai could barely remember her name anyway, he came up with the wrong spelling. And he didn't give her time to correct him before he dashed away.

